

THE BELLOWS

22 GREAT YEAR

March 15, 2001

Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc.

Vol. XXII, No. 7

WHAT	NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF PSPCS
WHERE	DES MOINES MASONIC TEMPLE 2208 S. 223rd St. (Take Midway exit #149 west off I-5...go to first stop light west of Pacific Hwy. South...Turn right.)
WHEN	Thursday, March 15th..7:30 p.m. till 10:00 p.m. (doors open about 6:30 p.m.)
WHY	Short business meeting..auction (one item per member please)..door prize..Show & Tell..member trade and sell tables (free to members, please cover during business meeting.) <u>Program:</u> Bring, and share, another of your "mini-collections"..up to six items of a like nature which are a mini-collection within your total collection. i.e. red box cameras, German 35mm etc.

CAMERA SHOWS CONTINUE:

By the time you read this you have returned from the March 3rd Portland Show with money and/ or treasures and are packed ready to head off to the March 11th Vintage Camera Show & Sale, which is part of the Willamette Collectors Market, Linn County Fairgrounds, Albany, Oregon, Exit 234 off I-5. Contact Willamette Collectors Market (503)-399-8506, www.oregoncollector.com, oregoncollector@bigfoot.com

There will be no need to unpack the van because Saturday, March 17th is the Portland Photographers Forum's 19th Annual Camera Swap Meet. This will be held in The Collector's Market, 8900 North Vancouver Ave., Portland. (To get there leave I-5 at exit 306B soon after you cross the interstate bridge. Travel east and south on Whitaker Road for approximately 3/4 of a mile to the "T" intersection at Schemeer Road. Turn left (east) and left again at North Vancouver Ave. Immediately turn right into the parking lot..rush inside and go to selling and buying.) This has been a good & fun Show in the past. For information contact PPF, 15166 SE Topaz Avenue, Milwaukie, OR 97267, (503)-557-9196, www.portlandphotoforum.org

Now, you get to come home and get reacquainted with the spouse and kids for five weeks until Siggie Rohde's 20th West Coast Canada Photographic Historic Association Camera Show, to be held on Sunday, April 22 in Vancouver B.C. Siggie wants you to know that the Show site has been changed to the: Seaforth Armoury, 1650 Burrard at West 1st Ave. Its the second building over the Burrard bridge heading out of downtown..or the second to last building before heading downtown over the Burrard bridge. Thats the bridge that does NOT cross over Granville Island.

This too has been a good show in the past and the 150 tables sell out fast. Contact Siggie at (604)-941-0300 for information.

Please see Camera Shows page three...

This Month's Mystery Question.

Answers at end of Newsletter.

With thanks to the Arizona Photographic Collectors:

What rare subminiatures are shaped like a large mechanical pen and were produced around 1953?

****BACKSIDE INFORMATION****

The February 15th meeting of the Puget Sound Photographic Collectors Society came to order at 7:37. There were thirty-two members and one guest in attendance. The minutes of the January meeting were approved as read and treasurer, Shirley, reported that Show table money was coming in and the Club was still in the black.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Show Committee reported they are going to spend additional money on the Friday night Show hospitality room. This year the room will be twice as big and we are ordering twice as much food. Other Show planning is also on track. Members, who sign up for door keeper duties during the Show, will get to come in and shop on the Friday set-up evening as well as during the day on Saturday. Darrel reported 200 hundred plus tables had been spoken for, leaving only about fifty to be sold. Ed Fry brought flyers for the members to pass around at camera shops, work, etc. Ed pointed out how important this was in getting information about our Show out to the public and thanked the members for their help in advance.

NEW BUSINESS & PROGAM:

There was no new business. Bill Kimber, John Sparrow, Merle Carey, Shirley Sparrow and Ron Gulsvig brought some very interesting mini-collections out of their collections to show and discuss.

AUCTION, ANNOUNCEMENTS, DOR PRIZES:

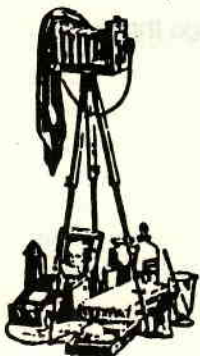
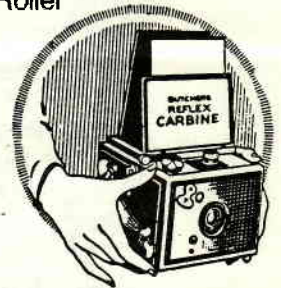
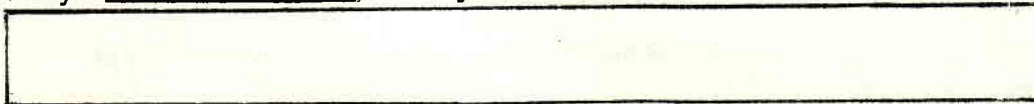
Three items were auctined for a total of \$92.00. Bill Kimber brought information about a large upcoming photographica auction in New York City. Door prizes were won by Mike Servais and Stu Curry.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 for more selling and cookie munching.

NEW MINI ROLLEI ON THE HORIZON:

Regular contributor to The Bellows, Bob Peters, sent in the following word to the wize: Watch for the introduction of the Rollefex 2.8F miniature. It looks like a 2.8F, but uses Minox film. Probably not a great user, but WOW what a collectible! Manufactured in Japan for Rollei it has crank advance, dummy light meter and mirror lens caps. Lenses appear larger in proportion than the orginal. It may be one to grab quickly!

The following "White Space" is reprinted from the Cascade Photographic Historical Society's Cascade Panorama, January 2001 and is used with much thanks. Ed.



THE BELLOWS Newsletter is published 10 times per year by Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc. Information for The Bellows should be sent to Bill Kimber 1413 Weathervane Dr., Tacoma, WA 98466-5712 (253) 564-4046, billkimber@webtv.net

The P.S.P.C.S. internet address is: <http://www.geocities.com/pspcs/index.html>

Dues are \$10.00 per year and should be sent to Secretary/Treasurer Shirley Sparrow, 300 Pease Road, Cle Elum, WA 98922 (509) 674-1916, ssparrow@eburg.com P.S.P.C.S. members receive first notification of our last Saturday in April yearly show.

PRESIDENT: DARREL WOMACK (206) 244-6831 darrelcam@jps.net

THE REALLY BIG SHOW:

Now you are ready for our "Really Big Show"! The Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society Inc.'s twenty-first Camera and Photographica Sale, Swap & Show. to be held Saturday, April 28th in the Western Washington Fair Grounds Pavilion. Two hundred and seventy tables of photographica for sale and display. This is the largest and, we hope, the best Show on the West coast. This years tables (\$35.00 each limit 3) have been selling well and we are told Jim McKeown and wife Joan, authors of THE BOOK, have purchased a table.

Please take some of our Show flyers at the meeting and spread them around. You will get an early- in badge for BOTH Friday evening and Sturday morning by signing up with Mike Immel (425-806-8168) for one quick hour taking tickets at the door. You will be helping your Club and yourself. This is called a win-win situation. Remember, if you would like a FREE display table to show off your collection get your form into Don Friend right away as March 15th is the cut off date. (360)-459-7835.

This is your Show! With your help we have made it one of the best in the United States! Help us to continue this tradition of excellence and enjoyment.

The folowing is reprinted from the Cascade Photographic Historical Society's Cascade Panorama, November-December 2000 and is used with much thanks. Ed.

Edwin Polaroid and the Magic Camera

by Ken Hough

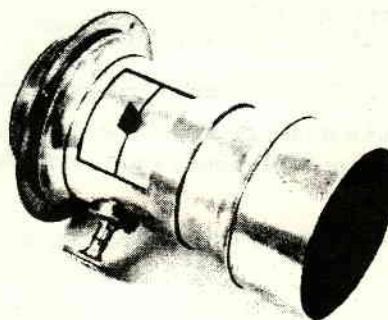
A few years ago I decided to find and buy a 5x7 Graflex. Any model would work. So I ended up with my first 5x7 Graflex series B. It was a beater so I put a front surface mirror and a fresnel in it. That made the Dagor a bit brighter at least. I had a Fairchild / Graflex aerial bagmag (these have 12 septums that are made of a type of hardboard and weigh a ton!!). Combined with the camera we are talking around 15+ lbs. and I still needed a tripod! I got my Crown #4 out, loaded the bagmag with Tri-X and was ready to do some serious photography.

Now what I do on weekends matches the weirdness of hauling the 5x7 monster around. I run Steam powered traction engines at tractor shows. What a friend of mine and I want to do is get "the shot." This is a photo where there is a tractor running a threshing machine with nothing from the late 20th century to spoil the pic. No baseball caps, no modern trucks, no Pink Floyd tee shirts. Just a pure vintage scene. And reproduced with a vintage camera! The scene is set. I get all set up. People are walking around ignoring me and the camera till a woman comes by and asks, "What is it?" I explain politely. She refuses to believe me. She said photography was invented by Edwin Polaroid. I explain that she's wrong. She leaves and returns with her husband who accuses me of calling his wife a liar. He's bigger than me so I say, "Okay, Edwin Polaroid invented photography." Another man (again, much bigger than me) is near by, and he tries to tell her I'm right. We enter into a conversation when I remember I had McKeowns guide in the van. This settles

the problem. She asked me what her grandfather's Polaroid is worth. (Oh boy, a model 95!!) I look it up and tell her its worth \$20. She really blows up. Grandpa paid \$500!!! It must be worth more than when it was new ... It's old!! I said, "No it wasn't. Here it is in print!"

Her husband "Buba" wanted to look in the hood of the Graflex. I said sure. (The camera was set for a shot and was stopped down) He looked in with his Elvis sunglasses and said he did not see anything. I looked in and deftly opened the lens. I said I could see fine! Others looked in and saw okay too. He wanted to look again so I stopped down and he still could not see. He took the sunglasses off. Still no image. She wanted to look. I opened the lens and she gasped. She said it made everything look old and backwards! (It was aimed at the vintage scene)

"Did it do that anywhere I aimed it?" "You bet," I said. But it takes hours for the change to happen. He and she wondered off, marveling at my magic camera and Edwin Polaroid. Remember this happened in Indiana in 1999. Do not bring a Traid Fotron in the state.



The Willard lens

PhotoHistory XI and a Great Discovery

by Mike Kessler

"No. NO! NO WAY!!! I can't believe it!" Those were just some of the more printable expletives that fell out of my mouth as Dr. George "Captain Kodak" Layne proudly showed me the obscure, 1890s photo magazine he had just bought at the Rochester PhotoHistory Camera Show. The reason for my shock was the three full pages of advertisements for Simon Wing cameras, and one cut in particular. There before my incredulous eyes was a completely unknown Wing Camera — a leather-covered box detective called the "Boston."

When I published what I thought was the complete history of old Simon and his stable of strange cameras several years ago [After Simon Wing Photography Was Never Quite the Same, *The Photographer*, No. 102-103, Summer-Fall 1994, 6-48], it was the culmination of thirty years of collecting everything I could find on the subject. One of the limiting factors in researching Wing cameras was the apparent lack of pertinent advertising. It seemed that Simon Wing rarely bought advertising space in any of the popular publications of the time. In fact in thirty years of collecting Wing related material, I found only two or three obscure mentions of his "New Gem" cameras. Now you can understand my reaction at seeing not only three full pages of Wing camera advertisements but discovering a completely new model to boot. George kindly promised to send me a copy of the ads and a darn good thing he did too. I was already plotting a "mugging" in the parking lot later that day.

That was a great and much needed highlight to what was otherwise a very disappointing camera show. The day long symposium at the "House" however, the heart of each PhotoHistory, was as always filled with greeting old acquaintances and suffering through the decision of which of the simultaneous presentations to attend. Among the ones I particularly enjoyed were Matthew Isenberg's foray into the Carte de Visite, Nick Graver's explanation of "Photographic Numismatics" and Jack Naylor's unfolding of his second collection — heavy on the "Super Dags." I had to pass up a talk on the Lippman color process, but Eaton Lothrop made up for it in his "Birthday of the Brownie."

I always look forward to the symposium, but this time in particular I was anticipating the trade show itself. As most of us have long lamented, there are no more "great" camera shows. The Boston and New York versions, like all the others, have foregone wood and brass for Nikons and worse ... DIGITAL, and with the demise of the WPCA and the degeneration of the Bay Area camera shows, the West Coast is no better.

In the past the Rochester Show has always seemed to be immune from the "modernization" of the other shows. Held only every three years, it was caught in some sort of "time warp" where nineteenth century treasures abounded and prices were better than reasonable. Well, the bubble has burst. The show was larger than ever, filling two rooms at the Marriott Thruway, and populated with extremely hungry collectors and dealers. Unfortunately there was almost nothing to buy, and when something interesting did hit the table, the price was triple *McKeowns*. Two collectors fought so hard over a wooden, European stereo camera that many people wisely left the immediate area.

So in the end the only thing I bought was a sandwich for lunch. But I did sell well (in a show like this I could have made a fortune just selling "Pictures" of cameras), and I "discovered" a completely new Wing Camera. How bad can life be?



Answer: *The Septon Pen Camera and Septon Penletto were made by Harukawa in Japan. These unusually designed cameras fetch anywhere from \$800 to \$2,300. If you did not identify the Septon Pen but instead thought you'd come across a Stylophot (also Private Eye), then you are equally correct. The Stylophot, however, is not as rare and sells for between \$175 and \$300,*

